

Regarding need to strengthen rail, road and air connectivity for regional development in Barak Valley, Assam-Laid

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (JORHAT): Barak Valley in Assam is once again facing a grave connectivity crisis during this year's monsoon season. Relentless rainfall has triggered landslides, road subsidence, and infrastructure failures, disrupting all major routes—NH 6, NH 37, and the Lumding–Silchar railway line—and severely affecting road and rail connectivity. The recent collapse of the Harang Bridge on the Silchar–Kalain route, just weeks after a ₹137 crore repair, has completely cut off a vital link. Frequent landslides along NH 6 near Sonapur and Lumshnong, and fragile rail tracks continue to isolate the region. Air connectivity remains extremely limited and unaffordable, with insufficient flights and inadequate cargo facilities. As a result, people in the valley are facing high inflation in essential commodities, delays in medical treatment, severe disruption of student travel, and widespread economic distress. The region's recurring isolation highlights the urgent need for structural, long-term solutions, including robust road, rail, and air connectivity. The current state of affairs is a humanitarian, economic, and logistical emergency. The Government must take urgent note of the situation and ensure that Barak Valley receives the focused attention and investment it has long been denied.